

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:DHSIMPSON:DBBOLEN:DH

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R 212243Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BC, US

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA PRESENTATION REMARKS

REF: A. GABORONE 350 B. STATE 53626

1. FOLLOWING ARE AMBASSADOR BOLEN'S PLANNED REMARKS FOR APRIL 11 PRESENTATION CEREMONY. REQUEST EMBASSY MAKE ANY MODIFICATIONS NECESSARY TO ACCORD WITH LOCAL DIPLOMATIC USAGE.

2. QUOTE 2. YOUR EXCELLENCY: IT IS FOR ME BOTH A PRIVILEGE AND AN HONOR TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT TO YOU THE LETTERS OF CREDENCE FROM PRESIDENT NIXON ACCREDITING ME AS THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA AND THE LETTERS OF RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR CHARLES J. NELSON, WHOM YOU SO KINDLY WELCOMED DURING HIS TIME WITH YOU.

3. MR. PRESIDENT, I BRING TO YOU NOT ONLY WARMEST GREETINGS FROM THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, I ALSO BRING HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES WILL GROW STRONGER.

4. I FEEL PARTICULARLY FORTUNATE IN HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY

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TO WORK WITH YOU AT A TIME WHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR

COUNTRIES ARE GROWING, MATURING, AND BROADENING AT A RAPID

PACE. IN THE CALLS THAT I MADE IN THE UNITED STATES PRIOR TO COMING TO BOTSWANA, I FOUND A VERY LIVELY INTEREST IN YOUR COUNTRY, AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AMONG AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, IN THE PRESS, AND AMONG A WIDE RANGE OF BUSINESSMEN, BANKERS, INVESTORS, AND PRIVATE CITIZENS. IT WILL BE MY TASK, AND MY PLEASURE, TO ASSIST IN INCREASING THESE CONTACTS BETWEEN BOTSWANANS AND AMERICANS.

5. THERE ARE MANY ELEMENTS IN THE FEELING OF FRIENDSHIP THAT AMERICANS HAVE FOR BOTSWANA. WE HAVE A DEEP RESPECT FOR YOUR POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND YOUR DEDICATION TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. AMERICANS HAVE OBSERVED WITH INTEREST THE INDEPENDENT ROLE IN AFRICA AND THE WORLD THAT BOTSWANA HAS ESTABLISHED FOR ITSELF UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP. WE ADMIRE THE VIGOR AND DETERMINATION WITH WHICH YOUR COUNTRY IS PURSUING ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS. I AM CONFIDENT, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT WE SHARE MANY COMMON INTERESTS AND VALUES THAT CONSTITUTE A BASIS FOR DEVELOPING LONG-RANGE TIES AND MOVING OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS TO NEW HEIGHTS.

6. MR. PRESIDENT, I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THE WARM WELCOME THAT BOTSWANA HAS ALREADY EXTENDED TO ME DURING MY BRIEF TIME WITH YOU, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO EXPLORING WITH YOU IN MONTHS TO COME MEANS OF MAINTAINING AND EXTENDING THE ALREADY CLOSE RELATIONS THAT EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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